



NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-6000

Case: 104134/Appeal: 5318
15 March 2018

Emma Best
MuckRock News
DEPT MR 52797
411A Highland Avenue
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

Dear Ms. Best:

Thank you for your correspondence of 13 February 2019, appealing the response from the National Security Agency (NSA or Agency) to your request under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). You had requested “[c]opies of all unclassified e-Chirps.” NSA initially responded that your request was overly broad, unreasonably burdensome, and not specific enough to allow a reasonable search. In that same response, this Agency recommended that you narrow your request to a specific topic and timeframe, and informed you that the processing of your request would be held in abeyance for 30 days pending a response from you. Your follow-up correspondence to NSA’s response declined to limit the scope of your request in any way. NSA subsequently determined that your request is not a valid FOIA request.

I have reviewed your initial request, as well as your follow-up correspondence, the Agency’s 4 May 2018 and 11 January 2019 responses to you, and your appeal. Your appeal argues that “the request was quite specific in scope, and it is easy for the agency to locate the materials.” Based on my review, I am granting your appeal. Therefore, your request has been returned to the FOIA Office for further processing.

Please note your request will retain its appropriate position in the processing queue based on the order in which it was received. Generally, requests are processed on a first-in, first-out basis. Should you have any questions regarding your request, please contact the FOIA Office at 301-688-6527 and refer to Case Number 104134.

Sincerely,

STEVEN E. THOMPSON
Freedom of Information/Privacy Act Appeal Authority

